

00862.022377.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Yoshiharu KATAOKA)	Prior Examiner: W.C. Vesperman
)	Prior Group Art Unit: 2813
Application No.: Divisional of Appln. No. 09/946,486,)	
filed September 6, 2001)	
Filed: March 17, 2004)	
For: ALIGNMENT METHOD AND)	
EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING)	March 17, 2004
THE METHOD)	

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

These documents were cited during prosecution of copending parent application no. 09/946,486, filed September 6, 2001.

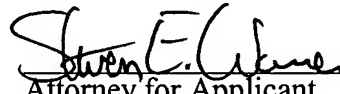
Japanese patent document number 7-321012 is discussed on page 1 of the subject specification.

Applicant requests that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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SEW/eab

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) March 17, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022377.1		APPLICATION NO. Divisional of Appln. No. 09/946,486, filed September 6, 2001	
				APPLICANT Yoshiharu KATAOKA			
				FILING DATE March 17, 2004		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US-5,783,341	07/21/1998	Uzawa	430	22	
		US-5,751,428	05/12/1998	Kataoka et al.	356	401	
		US-6,416,912 B1	07/09/2002	Kobayashi et al.	430	22	
		US-5,403,754	04/04/1995	Jackson	437	8	
		US-5,998,226	12/07/1999	Chan	438	10	
		US-5,835,196	11/10/1998	Jackson	355	53	
		US-4,769,680	09/06/1998	Resor, III et al.	355	43	
		US-6,590,637 B2	07/08/2003	Nishi	355	53	
		US-5,945,239	08/31/1999	Taniguchi	430	30	
		2002/0014601 A1	02/07/2002	Yoshida	250	548	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		7-321012	12/08/1995	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.